Please replace the Abstract with the following:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A coolant circuit of a motor vehicle, including the following features: a coolant, especially water or a water mixture; a coolant pump having a coolant outlet; a retarder provided with a central ring, the working medium thereof being the coolant; a reversing valve in the flow direction upstream of the retarder and a bypass section for bypassing the retarder, such that the retarder can be connected to and disconnected from the coolant circuit. According to the invention, the coolant pump is arranged in the flow direction upstream of the retarder in such a way that it pumps coolant into the retarder when the retarder is connected, and pumps coolant past the retarder via the bypass section when the retarder is disconnected.